



United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

Food and  
Nutrition  
Service

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Alexandria, VA  
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DATE: November 17, 2009

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SUBJECT: Chefs in the Cafeteria

TO: Regional Directors  
Special Nutrition Programs  
All Regions

State Agencies  
Child Nutrition Programs  
All States

On October 15, 2009 during National School Lunch Week, USDA launched *Chefs in the Cafeteria*, inspired by White House Assistant Chef, Sam Kass. The initiative connects chefs to schools and schools to chefs to find ways to work together, share best practices, and help get nutritious foods to our nation's kids. Through the use of an internet tool that is designed to be user-friendly and promote discussion and debate, participants can start a conversation, answer a question or just enjoy reading.

In addition, I would like to remind you that the Team Nutrition Directory of Chefs, is still active. Through this directory, chefs who are willing to volunteer their time in schools to inspire children about cooking and food choices can add their name and contact information. Schools seeking food service advice can search through the directory and find chefs in their area.

Information about the Directory of Chefs and *Chefs in the Cafeteria* internet tool is available on the Team Nutrition Healthy Meals Resource System at:

<http://healthymeals.nal.usda.gov/chefs.html>

**Original Signed**

CYNTHIA LONG  
Director  
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